



2024

# IMPACT REPORT

CELEBRATING OUR PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL

I don't like it when people ask me what my favourite Bible book (or verse) is.

**I love it all!**

But if I had to identify a book that feels particularly powerful right now, it would likely be Revelation.

In a world that is unstable, unpredictable, and deeply challenging for disciples of Jesus, Revelation breaks in with power and completely reorients our perspective. And just when we are about to give up, the Revelation of Jesus Christ to John explodes into our experience with:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

“Look, he is coming with the clouds,” and “every eye will see him, even those who pierced him”; and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.” So shall it be! Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Wow!

Whatever issue, problem, oppression, persecution, or struggle you or your church are facing, remember that **the eternal, almighty, triune God of the universe is still in power!**

We have hope because of who God is.

At MB Seminary, whether teaching about leadership, spiritual care, mission, biblical studies, theology, or history, our heart is to draw people closer to God. And to equip others to do the same. Now more than ever, we need to have our eyes on God.

**Thank you for supporting, encouraging, and partnering with MB Seminary this past year!**



**Mark Wessner, Ph.D.** is President of MB Seminary  
and Associate Professor of Biblical Studies for Leadership

**SHAPING LEADERS, CHANGING LIVES**

**The first chapter of Philippians** is a powerful text that speaks directly to our hearts.

In verses 4-5, Paul writes, "In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."

Did you catch what Paul said causes him to pray with joy? Partnership in the gospel.

Not wealth, not success, not fame.

### Partnership in the gospel.

This is the heart of our Teaching Church partnerships across the country. Through each unique ministry relationship, MB Seminary comes alongside churches and conferences to help educate and equip leaders and church families to "reach Canada and beyond with the Good News of Jesus Christ."

We've experienced many encouraging experiences during four years of Teaching Churches, including **launching our first partnership with WMB Church in Waterloo, Ontario, this fall.**

And as we look ahead, this June, MB Seminary and Willingdon Church will celebrate the first cohort of graduating students who will have completed their entire Masters degrees while staying in their church community and serving in their ministry contexts!

**This would not be possible without your partnership in the gospel.** On behalf of our students and ministry leaders, thank you for supporting MB Seminary!

-Dr. Mark Wessner



## ONMB

**With you, we are partnering with Ryan Jantzi**, Ministry Director for the Ontario Conference (ONMB) to help equip pastors and lay people through our new Teaching Church in Ontario.



**This new Teaching Church is exciting because it will impact both our pastors and our churches.** "An increasing number of our pastors are beginning as a mid-career, mid-life shift. Existing life responsibilities mean most will never attend seminary in a traditional on-campus format. And yet, deep theological formation still matters! It's been exciting **to see a number of our pastors learn together, within our evangelical Anabaptist MB framework**, in ways that weren't previously accessible. I believe that the development of the Teaching Church Partnership will enable ONMB toward a more faithful and fruitful collective witness to Christ."

Further, "Many people scattered across our churches have never had the opportunity for theological formation at an academic level, for various reasons. The level of participation at the first Teaching Church Partnership offering at WMB Church indicates that there is a hunger for this. What a joy to see lay **people young and old learning alongside** some of our pastors who are studying for credit." One lifelong learning participant expressed thankfulness:

*"I am so thankful to have the opportunity to take part in this workshop. Thank you for coming to Ontario. I look forward to the next one."*

**Your partnership in the gospel is making an impact in ONMB and churches across the country!**

# MB CHURCHES

With you, we are partnering with **Connie Maier**, Pastor of Outreach & Implementation at Glencairn MB Church in Kitchener ON, to equip her church and others across the country.

She extended the invitation because, "I am a huge fan of biblical/theological training for both staff and lay folks within our conference. I did my seminary part-time, while serving as a lay leader in the church and loved the experience. I would hope that others would see the value in this opportunity and I was happy to spread the word with our Glencairn family. Having this hosted locally was a huge bonus for our churches in Ontario."



"I really believe MB theology has a unique gift to offer the broader church. **This partnership can help not only equip our people, but help them to see themselves as part of a larger family on mission together for Jesus.**"

"Good theological training has need of a multi-pronged approach in our churches and the MB teaching church model can play a strong role in strengthening theological depth within our churches here in Ontario."

**Your partnership in the gospel is helping our MB churches connect and be on mission together!**

# MB STUDENTS

With you, we are partnering with three new graduate students who are benefitting from having access to world-class theological training close to home.

**Scott Roes, Associate Pastor at Mapleview Mennonite Church**, a congregation with a 150 year history, spoke appreciatively about the fact the MB Seminary was offering a course close to home for him. "It means that I can participate in MB Seminary courses. I am a part time pastor and I also have a dairy farm and a family. It would not be possible for me to travel to be part of these courses. Also the fact that the seminary courses are brought to local churches makes it even more appealing. There is always the option of taking online courses but being able to be in the same room as the professor and the other students is much more appealing."



**Brad Sherk, Pastor of Discipleship at Waterloo MB Church**, was asked about a highlight from the course, "Interpreting Scripture Today" that was taught by Dr. Mark Wessner. He replied, "My highlight was the personal connections made with my professor and with the other students. Since we were all pastors, we really bonded over working through the material of the course. Mark's videos that he made to give us feedback on our assignments were meaningful and helpful." Brad also expressed appreciation of being able to study close to home, allowing him to remain connected with his church family and saving time and resources.

**Michael Reimer, youth ministry director at Cornerstone Community Church**, shown here baptizing one of his youth, talked about his first seminary course being a rich experience because he was able to learn alongside people from his home church. He mentioned how meaningful it was "seeing how thoughtful and careful our approach is to seeing the depth of Scripture and understanding it well to apply it in our lives today." "The course has impacted my ministry by giving helpful language, methodology, and experience in diving DEEP into Scripture to let it have all the more impact and effect on how I carry myself as someone who wants to be deeply impacted by God and His word."



-Terry Kaethler

**Your partnership in the gospel is helping to train our MB pastors in their home church context!**

# GROWING CAPACITY

CELEBRATING PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS THE NATION



## GRADUATE HRS TAUGHT

# 335

Jesus called his disciples to be his "witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8 NIV), levels of Kingdom investment that radiate like concentric rings. Our Jerusalem is the community of MB churches, and our Judea and Samaria are the sisters and brothers we have been training through our partnership at ACTS for over 25 years. Our graduates are serving literally to the ends of the earth.

-Dr. Brian Cooper



## MB STUDENTS EQUIPPED

In every church there are gifted people with the ability to lead and the capacity to learn. Through our growing partnerships, we are equipping individuals for ministry right now, including some who are discerning and living out God's call to lead our MB churches. But we're only beginning. How might God be calling you?

# 126



-Dr. Brian Cooper

## ONLINE STUDENTS REACHED

Not every student can uproot to go to seminary, nor is every student near an MB Teaching Church. Our growing online programs help extend our seminary's reach and accelerate degree completion for our students. This year our faculty taught 19 online courses and helped equip 117 students, some even as far away as Hong Kong!

# 117



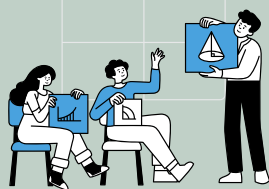
-Dr. T. Anderson

# 142

## LIFELONG LEARNERS EQUIPPED

Teaching Churches is more than knowledge seekers. This was my lesson as I met with a group from the Alberta Conference at Sunwest Church in Calgary. The group had gathered to consider how to pastorally respond to MAiD (Medical Assistance in Dying). As an Educator, I knew lifelong learning to be about gaining knowledge, skills, and experience for personal growth. My heart was blessed as I realized in that room I had lifelong learners seeking to learn and grow as faithful disciples of Jesus. No degree seekers, but definitely kingdom seekers!

-Dr. Gloria Woodland



## DEVOTIONAL READERS ENCOURAGED

The author of Hebrews states that the word of God is "living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword" (Heb 4:12). What we read in the Bible has *life*, which makes it different from anything else ever written. One of the reasons why we produce a devotional for Advent and Easter is to encourage people to open their Bibles and hear from God through Scripture, something that over 2,500 readers did this past year. I love to direct this project because no matter how many times readers might look at the same passage, God finds ways to speak to us in new and refreshing ways!

-Keith Reed

# 2525







REPORT  
**2025 Ontario MB Conference**

**Psalm 133**

**A song of ascents. Of David.**

*How good and pleasant it is  
when God's people live [partner/serve/work] together in unity!  
It is like precious oil poured on the head...*

If I was to sum up Multiply's 2024 engagement in only one word I would have to say **partnership**. If I had to use another word, it would be **team**. Not only has it been a joy to serve with our Ontario-based Multiply team of Erin, Derek and Doug; and the wider team of our North American workers like Kyla and the B's and the Nylands; but also with the ONMB staff team of Trevor, Ryan and Kristi. What a true blessing to support and serve our churches, and Kingdom expansion, **together**.

This past year, it has been such a privilege to find ourselves engaging more and more closely with ONMB in the initiatives that God has placed on the heart of our Ontario churches and leaders. It is as though we have been reading from the same playbook! Well, I guess we are!

This report is a testimony to serving together on one mission, with one church under one God. In this season, we as the Multiply Eastern Canada Team are truly thankful for the rich relationships and partnerships with the ONMB staff team, our ONMB family of churches and our global workers and global family of churches.

Together that the world may know Jesus,  
**Robyn Serez**

## Our Team

**Derek Parenteau in Sudbury:** serving with First Nations communities, new initiatives among those exiting the correctional system, and on the Multiply Global Lead Team. Derek is working with ONMB to resource prayer training ministry and mobilizing our family of churches.

**Doug Hiebert in Niagara:** Global Lead Team for Sub-Saharan Africa, resourcing the church and deepening partnerships in Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Malawi and more. The African diaspora church is thriving in North America and growing in mission to the West. Doug is available to speak as a mobilizer to our family of churches.

**Kyla Sinclair-Peters in Toronto:** continues to serve among marginalized individuals and immigrants from a least-reached diaspora group in the GTA. Connecting with youth who are exploring how to pray and worship as they discover that God speaks their heart language. Kyla is also working as a prison chaplain.

**Robyn Serez in Kitchener:** as Regional Mobilizer and Team Leader she walks alongside the team, serves our workers and helps facilitate some of our Mission Training Programs like SOAR and ACTION in a smaller capacity as she continues to provide care for Philip.

**Erin Coffey in Kitchener:** as Regional Administrator and Mobilization Assistant she supports workers, staff and programs in the region in many areas such as finance, project management, creative design, and communications, while also teaching piano and music theory lessons.



## SOAR KW

- How powerful it is to envision a community where there is a missionary on every street, actively engaged in serving their neighbors!
- Pray for locally-rooted SOAR experiences for youth. [multiply.net/soar/ontario](https://multiply.net/soar/ontario)
- SOAR KW 2024 March 13-16, 35 participants from WMB and Glencairn
- SOAR has made a transition from being a larger event based discipleship and mission program to being a locally embedded program where discipleship and mission happen in your own backyard and the serving opportunities during the week are ongoing throughout the year. Modeled on our past AWAKE events, these have the potential to be for the whole church and we hope to bring a mini-SOAR experience to other regions in the future.



## Partnering with ONMB

We have had the privilege of partnering with ONMB through prayer initiatives this past year, including the September Day of Prayer and online prayer training courses in which Derek Parenteau has had a facilitating role. The first online prayer training cohort happened in Fall 2024.

## New Global Partners for ONMB Churches

This year we expanded our global partnerships into two new regions of the world. Cornerstone has begun a partnership with Emerson Cardoza, the Regional Team Leader for South America serving out of Brazil. Meadowbrook has begun a partnership with Nasser al'Qahtani serving North African and Middle Eastern Countries. May God use these partnerships to establish more kingdom territory in both Canada and the world.



## Highlights/Milestones

- Doris Goertz retirement summer 2024 after 25+ years of serving in Japan since 1985 (supported by WMB Kitchener)
- Dave & Mel Berg spring 2024 transition into pastoral ministry in SK after serving in Central Asia and Austria since 2010 (supported by MeadowBrook & Glencairn)
- Focus interns for 2023-2024 Joanna K in Central Asia and the Gerrie family in Thailand

## Upcoming

- Sarah Reed • mini-MINA June 2025
- A&R • MINA spring or summer 2025
- Nasser al'Qahtani • teaching at the February Acts 6:4 Assembly and June Antioch Mission School
- Alex & Carla Suderman • MINA Summer 2025
- Jeremy & Adrienne Penner • MINA fall 2025



## Great Commission

We need more global workers! Would you pray with us for disciples of Jesus to be raised up in your churches and sent as local and global workers sharing the Gospel! Matthew 9:38 calls us to “ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”



# Our Family ON MISSION IN 2024

**God is on a Mission.** Jesus sends disciples, empowered by the Spirit, on God’s mission to love, reconcile, and transform people of all nations.

**Joining God’s Mission.** Together, we send disciples to make disciples who make disciples, that the world may know Jesus.

There are still thousands of **people groups lost without Jesus**. In each of the regions we serve, our network supports teams that are dedicated to loving specific groups of people. This year, 297 MB churches partnered with Multiply in at least one of our three mission strategies.

## 1 SENDING OUT MISSIONARIES

In 2024, **79 long-term workers**, sent from North America, served on teams around the world.



## 2 PARTNERING WITH NATIONALS

In 2024, we continued to encourage nationals in **71 nations**, walking closely with them and connecting them with those in North America who pray, give, and send missionaries where needed.



## 3 HELPING DISCIPLES MULTIPLY

In 2024, **819 everyday disciples** participated in **15 Mission Training Programs** based in North America, and thousands more in our global network participated in similar training worldwide.



View our full 2024 Global Report Online

[multiply.net/report](https://multiply.net/report)



# Financial Overview



Fiscal Year in \$USD: June 2023 - May 2024

We are thankful to God and to our donors that we continue to be in a healthy financial position. Our board of directors authorized us to invest \$540K of our accumulated unrestricted reserves to further support our strategic initiatives for this fiscal year. This year we used \$397K of our reserves as shown below.

## Net Results

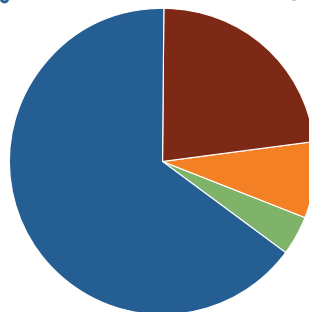
Fiscal Year Ended:	May 31, 2024	May 31, 2023
Revenue:	\$ 10,590,635	\$ 10,553,563
Expenses:	\$ 10,987,334	\$ 10,828,328
<b>Net:</b>	<b>\$ (396,699)</b>	<b>\$ (274,765)</b>

In addition to the net results shown here, our global workers and ministry projects have deployed \$542k of their restricted reserves which are held separately on our balance sheet. Combined, these projects have \$3.2M of reserves.

## How Your Gifts Were Put to Work

### Regional Teams Sharing *Jesus* | 65%

- Central & South America | 9%
- East Asia | 5%
- Europe & Central Asia | 15%
- Middle East & North Africa | 3%
- North America | 4%  
(Indigenous & Immigrants)
- South Asia | 3%
- Southeast Asia | 14%
- Sub-Saharan Africa | 5%
- Worldwide Initiatives | 7%



### 23% | North American Church Engagement

- 16% | Facilitating MB Church Partnerships
- 7% | Mission Training Programs  
(includes Short-Term Mission programs)

### 8% | Administration

Finance, IT, Legal & Governance

### 4% | Human Resources

Wellness, Equipping & Long-Term Missionary Training

## Our Generous Donors



This financial summary represents the work of Multiply Network funded by US and Canadian churches and donors. For more info, contact our Director of Finance, Jeff Friesen at [JeffF@multiply.net](mailto:JeffF@multiply.net)



# Camp Crossroads Update

Andrew Hiebert, Executive Director



Over the last several weeks my mind has kept coming back to God's steadfast love toward us. We can all fall into the trap of believing that God's love is conditional and that His acceptance is based on accomplishing things.



**Lamentations 3:22-23 says “The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.”**

Thank God His love is not based on any of our feelings on the matter. On the contrary, His words of promise towards us do not change but are based on His unchanging love and what Jesus accomplished on the Cross! He meant it when He said 'It is Finished! I have been realizing my need to let this truth sink in and to rest in God's steadfast love. God's love towards you, towards me is steadfast! We can rest.

## Highlights from 2024

This year we saw God move in the hearts of campers and staff of various ages. One story came from our last Family Camp of the summer. One of the adult campers had been deeply moved by the Lord during one of the Chapel sessions to take the step of obedience and get baptized. She had come to camp with her family and church care group. It was a beautiful sight to see her, her family, her care group, her pastor and many other campers and staff down at the beach supporting her as she publicly professed Jesus as Lord and Saviour and got baptized in Black Lake.

# Highlights from 2024

Another encouraging story comes out of partnering with a ministry called Rose City Kids. This past summer they sent 20 campers plus their staff to Teen week. God moved in a powerful way in the lives of these youth. The ministry director e-mailed me to let me know that several accepted Jesus as their saviour, some of them found a deep sense of peace, and others wanted to connect with a local church when they got home. Praise God for His transformation in the hearts of these youth!

We have been running our new discipleship program since last September. We have three students who have been learning, growing and serving in various capacities at Camp and with other ministries in Kitchener and New York City. We have seen God work in their lives in significant ways and are excited to walk alongside them. We are getting ready for a mission trip in March where they will be putting into practice what they have learned.

## Registration #

Program Type:	2022:	2023:	2024:
Overnight Campers	558	728	733
Family Campers	281	296	360
Day Campers	90	111	132
Peewee/Fishing	73	92	50
Canoe Trip	-	-	9
<b>Discipleship of Staff:</b>			
Leaders in Training	21	26	24
Bridge	10	15	20
Discipleship Program	-	-	3



## Rebuilding Camp

We saw God provide in significant ways. We had many volunteers and trades come to help us rebuild camp and we are incredibly grateful for the work we could get done.

Completed Projects include the chapel ceiling and fireplace, renovating Lakeview accommodations, hooking up the drilled well for our water source, installing Yurt tents at the cook out site, cabins were reshingled, outdoor stairs and walkways were rebuilt, and we installed a new dishwasher.



## Ministry Outlook for 2025

We have run 4 weekend retreats this winter and have seen God at work in the youth groups that have come. We are excited to serve the remaining seven churches coming in February. These retreats seem to be an excellent opportunity for youth to grow in their relationship with Jesus and to bring friends who don't know Him yet.

This summer we want share the Good News of Jesus with as many people as we can and see God transform lives! Summer registration opened February 3 and things are off to a good start. Currently, we have 620 overnight campers, 299 family campers, 82 day campers. Camp has room in every week except Youth Week. I would ask that you help us fill the beds and encourage people to come. Here is the link to our website: [www.campcrossroads.com/](http://www.campcrossroads.com/)

## We need your help!

- **Pray** We ask you to pray for God to transform lives with winter retreats and summer programs.
- **Help** We rely on volunteers to help us in our mission. We are running a **spring work week/weekend from April 28 – May 3**. Please contact Jay if you want to know more [jay@campcrossroads.com](mailto:jay@campcrossroads.com) We are also looking for kitchen and dining hall help during our 3 Family Camps this summer. [www.campcrossroads.com/volunteer/](http://www.campcrossroads.com/volunteer/)
- **Give** We are raising funds to support kids who otherwise can't afford camp. We're also raising funds to pay for the required septic system we need to install. [www.campcrossroads.com/give/](http://www.campcrossroads.com/give/)

## Partnerships

We continue to partner with various youth and family ministries to coordinate our efforts in sharing the Good News and making disciples. Check out the ministries below:

- [Rose City Kids](#)
- [City Kidz Hamilton](#)
- [Move-in](#)
- [Eden High School](#)



## Projects for 2025

We are currently working on a new staff residence we're calling Oakridge Lodge.

We are planning on installing a new septic bed to replace our aging system.

Thank-you for partnering with us as we seek to know Christ and to make Him known!



[www.campcrossroads.com](http://www.campcrossroads.com)



[info@campcrossroads.com](mailto:info@campcrossroads.com)



705-762-3111





## EDEN HIGH SCHOOL SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTRE

“LEADING STUDENTS TO LEARN OF CHRIST AND LIVE IN CHRIST”



### Resounding In Faith!



The word “resound” has woven itself into the fabric of our ministry. It means to be “unmistakable and emphatic” and this is the faith we desire for high school students as they live in Christ. God is working powerfully at Eden and although we’re excited by the metric of “numbers”, it is the deep desire for authentic discipleship that is truly causing us to rejoice! Our mentoring connections are focusing on topics like baptism, how to be better in “sabbath”, and deeper confession and repentance in students’ personal walk with Jesus. Honestly, it is humbling to see such a clear vulnerability from teens who are passionate about sharing Christ with their friends, and living a genuine faith, even in difficult life situations.

Recently, we interviewed potential leaders for our leadership track Eperera, and we asked each to describe the spiritual burdens they have for their friends. One applicant replied, “I want my friends to know there’s so much more beauty living a life for Christ than for yourself.” This is the Holy Spirit at work in the lives of Eden teens as they long to see their friends experience the life and teaching of Jesus Christ!

Our first community worship night hosted 300 people in the Eden chapel.



### Encouraging Trends

- Our Thursday prayer gathering is averaging 100 students/week.
- 1:1 mentoring meetings have been encouraging as many students dig deeper into their faith.
- There are 30+ students involved in our worship and tech ministry.
- Many students are being baptized in local churches and the SLC has been mentioned in several testimonies.
- We began a new Life Group that is focused on outreach. 15-20 students are being introduced to Jesus through deep questions on faith and life.
- Our daily morning chapel hosts an average of 130 students each day morning.

IT IS OUR DESIRE “TO CONTINUALLY GROW AS A CHRIST-CENTRED CATALYST AT EDEN HIGH SCHOOL FOR LIFE TRANSFORMATION AND SERVICE.”



Each fall, we host Grade Retreats at Camp Crossroads and they become instant highlights in the lives of those who attend! Following this year’s retreats, a group of parents mentioned that they’ve always wanted to experience a Grade Retreat, but have been unable to do so. From those conversations, we planned a worship night at Eden called “Becoming 2” (that was our retreat theme) and it was a powerful night where 300 grandparents, parents, alumni, and students showed up to sing and pray! The roof was lifted as we sang praise to God, calling out to our Heavenly Father as we knelt and prayed over the chapel space. Near the end of the evening, our students surrounded our parents and grandparents and prayed over them! There were many tears during this powerful expression of intercession and thankfulness! We are hosting our second gathering, “Resound 2” on May 22 so if you can make it, you are welcome to attend!



In the midst of our joy, the Spiritual Life Centre continues to face many challenges as we minister within a public high school. Over the past two years, we have been negotiating a Community Partner Agreement with the school board. The purpose was to clarify and strengthen our position within Eden, while operating within the policies and procedures of the DSBN. It was a challenging process that required legal insight and many



meetings. An agreement was reached on May 30, 2024 and while it wasn’t a perfect document, it afforded some encouragement. The challenge has been in the day to day “living out” of the document and that has brought significant hurdles, including limited access to our hallways and common areas. But God continues to be faithful! We are continuing to connect regularly with many students and are encouraged by the many that are accessing our SLC offices!

As I close, Ephesians 2:8-9 has been a powerful reminder that

God is making “masterpieces” from within our students and as He calls them to do those good works which He has prepared in advance, they are accepting the call! As we experience many Eden students surrendering to Jesus, we are watching Him hand-craft the hearts of prophets, poets, servants, peace-makers, reconcilers, ambassadors, and warriors. He is truly building His church within a generation that is not ashamed to live like Jesus!

The SLC ministry is situated in a public high school, providing one of the most unique opportunities to engage high school students with the life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ. By God’s grace, we are equipping a generation to go and bring Christ to their world. I continue to believe that this is a miraculous gift from God so please continue to pray for our team as we labour in Christ. On behalf of Meghan Plett who is in her 15th year, Kezia Wilson who joined the SLC in April 2024 and the Eden Advisory Board, we thank you for supporting us in our mission of “leading students to learn of Christ and live in Christ”. May God bless you in your ministries!



John Bryan (SLC Director)

**FOR MORE INFO. ON THE SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTRE, PLEASE VISIT [SLCEDEN.COM](http://SLCEDEN.COM)**



As we look back on the last year, we're filled with gratitude for you and your partnership in our work. Your support is bringing hope to families, empowering communities and transforming lives through our work right here in Ontario.

Like our new meat cannery in New Hamburg providing nutritious food for people in crisis so they don't have to worry where their next meal will come from. And The Raw Carrot social enterprise which makes delicious soup for everyone and creates meaningful work for people who face barriers to employment.

Such as the Circle of Friends program that walks alongside those in poverty by building community and relationships.

Also, the Indigenous Neighbours program where we're striving towards truth and reconciliation through relationship, art and advocacy.

And our thrift stores where our incredible staff volunteers and shoppers are supporting over 500 international programs helping communities thrive around the world.

Your partnership has made all this possible this past year. Supporting MCC is one of the ways you are responding to the call of the gospel and following Jesus by sharing his love and compassion with those in need. This is a testament to your trust in us and the difference we're making together.

We know there are many other worthy causes you could support, and we're incredibly grateful that you've chosen to walk alongside us. Thank you for sharing your love and compassion with those in need from all of us here at MCC Ontario.

With much gratitude,



MICHELLE BRENNEMAN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
MCC ONTARIO



## Program Highlights

from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024

2,820,965

items, including clothing, furniture and household goods, were thoughtfully reused, helping both people and the planet through MCC Ontario Thrift Shops.

1,801

volunteers embodied compassion and hope for countless lives.



1,400

hours of employment that matters at The Raw Carrot soup enterprise.



116,125

people internationally received hygiene items, including menstrual health supplies.



305

initiatives strengthened local food sovereignty in northern Indigenous communities.



15

advocacy initiatives aimed to create meaningful change and improve the lives of the most vulnerable.



194

newcomers were welcomed to Ontario, beginning new lives of hope and opportunity.



MCC photo/Ken Ogasawara

## MCC in Ontario

On January 18, 2025, over 700 people gathered at the MCC Hub in New Hamburg to celebrate the grand opening of the new MCC Meat Cannery. This 10,000-square-foot facility is set to make a significant impact on vulnerable communities worldwide with a goal of producing 60,000 cans of nutritious food annually for families in crisis. The event was filled with energy and hope as supporters, donors and volunteers celebrated alongside MCC staff, local elected officials and members of the local meat canning committees. With the new cannery, MCC is poised to provide even more vital food to families in need. Together, we can continue to make a lasting impact, one can at a time.



Photo/AMBCU

## MCC Around the World

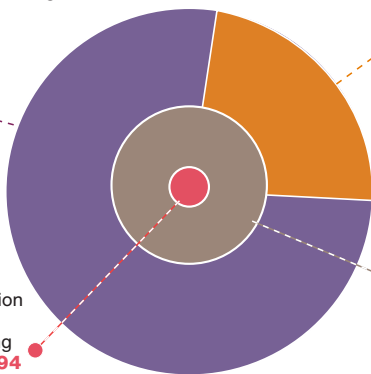
The war in Ukraine continues after three years and MCC partner, The Association of Mennonite Brethren Churches of Ukraine (AMBCU), continues to provide relief to people whose lives have been upended by the conflict. Each month they provide food packages to more than 200 families. Volunteers have distributed relief and hygiene supplies such as MCC relief kits, comforters and canned meat. They have also started responding to psychological needs, providing therapy and other supports to displaced children. Amid the darkness of violence and grief these churches are living out what it means to be a people of hope and clinging to the promise of advent that God is still with us and at work.

## Financial Highlights

MCC ONTARIO DOLLARS AT WORK:  
**\$18,710,282**

International programs  
**\$10,727,663**  
57%

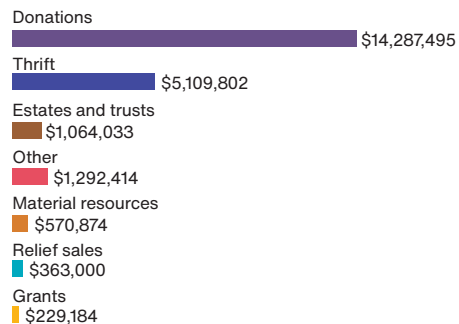
Core mission support - Fundraising  
**\$1,297,494**  
7%



Ontario programs  
**\$4,279,420**  
23%

Core mission support - Administration  
**\$2,405,705**  
13%

MCC ONTARIO FUNDING SOURCES:  
**\$22,916,802**



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# REPORT

## MDS Canada 2024: Restoring hope

“It is a tremendous thing to have this happen. To have a house built for you, it’s beyond words,” said Jade Shamen, one recipient of a volunteer-built home in North Shuswap, British Columbia.

Jade, his wife Isabelle and their four-year-old son Able were among hundreds of North Shuswap area residents affected by the Bush Creek East Wildfire in August 2023. The family was one of four households in the North Shuswap area to benefit from an MDS volunteer-built home this summer, while four more were helped with home repairs and renovations. Over a five-month period, 227 volunteers served in the North Shuswap.

Around the same time, a smaller national crew rebuilt a house in Lytton, British Columbia. Patsy Gessey and Owen Collings survived a wildfire in 2021. Due to several complicating factors — including toxic ash removal, loss of town records, archeological surveying requirements and updates to the local building code — rebuilding began more than two years after the fire flattened their village.

“I’m so grateful and thankful that I’m working with [MDS] because your organization shows hope... Some people have given up... but you’ve stuck with us,” shared Owen.

Units were also active across the country with house builds taking place in Carstairs, Alberta, and Truro, Nova Scotia. Home repair projects were undertaken in Manitoba.



Isabelle Labelle and Jade Shamen in Celista, B.C.

In Carstairs, more than 130 people volunteered to rebuild a house for Elisa Humphreys after she lost her home to a tornado last year. The house was built almost entirely by daily volunteers, 95 serving with MDS for the first time.

“God [directed] but people had to say yes. So, my heart was really warmed by how giving people were and what a great community we live in,” said Jessica Lawrence, volunteer coordinator for the response.

In July, the Ontario Unit hosted the MDS Canada Family Project at Fraser Lake Camp near Bancroft, Ontario. Over four weeks, 48 people built three cabins and put the finishing touches on two more — to house camp volunteers and facilitate their program activities.

As I reflect on our work and relationships with disaster survivors and their communities in 2024, I am so grateful for the collective efforts of response coordinators, units, staff and the hundreds of daily, weekly and long-term volunteers who helped us achieve our mission to restore hope and homes. Thank you for your partnership in this work! I invite your continued prayers as we explore how to best serve our neighbours, across the country, in 2025.

—Ross Penner, Executive Director

### 2024 STATS

2 national responses	8 service scholarships awarded
263 national response volunteers	21 Spirit of MDS Fund grants totalling
4 unit responses	\$102,000 issued to churches and community orgs.
1 summer youth project	
1 family project	